

root of caudal. Pectoral  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head, the spine serrated on both sides. Ventral  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as distant from caudal as from end of snout. Caudal  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head. Dark brown.

Total length 160 mm.

A single specimen from Esimesa (Congo basin).

Closely allied to *C. macromystax*, Gthr.

*Pelmatochromis kribensis*.

Teeth in two series. Depth of body 3 times in total length, length of head  $3\frac{1}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{3}$  times. Snout rounded, with convex upper profile, as long as eye, which is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{3}$  times in length of head and equals interorbital width; maxillary extending to below anterior border of eye; 3 series of scales on the cheek. Gill-rakers short, 10 or 11 on lower part of anterior arch. Dorsal XVI-XVII 8-9; spines gradually increasing in length to the last, which measures about  $\frac{1}{3}$  length of head; longest soft rays shorter than head. Anal III 6-7; third spine nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head. Pectoral  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of head. Ventral produced into a filament. Caudal rounded-subacuminate. Caudal peduncle a little deeper than long. Scales smooth, 27-29  $\frac{2}{9}$ ; lat. lines  $\frac{18-20}{5-8}$ . Olive above, whitish beneath; a blackish opercular spot; soft dorsal often with a round black spot behind the last spine; caudal sometimes with two black, light-edged ocellar spots above; outer edge of ventrals blackish.

Total length 65 mm.

Several specimens from the Kribi River.

Closely allied to *P. tenuatus*, Blgr., and *subocellatus*, Gthr.

XLVIII.—On some Fishes of the Family Poeciliidæ.

By C. TATE REGAN, M.A.

1. A new *Xiphophorus* from Guatemala.

*Xiphophorus rachovii*, sp. n.

Depth of body about 3 in the length, length of head 4 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$ . Snout somewhat shorter than eye, the diameter of which is 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in the length of head; interorbital width equal to the distance from eye to edge of operculum. 26 or

27 scales in a longitudinal series. Dorsal 11-13; branched rays subequal in length or slightly decreasing backwards. Anal 9-10. Least depth of caudal peduncle less than the distance from end of dorsal to base of caudal fin. Olivaceous; 2 or 3 brownish longitudinal stripes at the edges of the series of scales on the sides of the body; dorsal and caudal fins yellow at the base; a pair of conspicuous blackish spots, one above and one below, at the base of the caudal fin.

Six examples, 40 to 65 mm. in length, of this pretty little aquarium fish have been sent to me by Herr A. Rachow, of Hamburg. They came from Porto Barrios, on the Atlantic coast of Guatemala, between Lake Yzabal and the Rio Motagua. This new species is closely related to *X. brevis*, Regan, from British Honduras.

## 2. The Pœciliid Fishes of Celebes and Lombok.

The Pœciliid fishes known from Celebes belong to two species—*Haplochilus celebensis*, M. Weber (Zool. Ergebn. iii. 1894, p. 426), which seems from the description to be a true *Haplochilus*, and *H. sarasinorum*, Popta (Notes Leyden Mus. xxv. 1905, p. 239), for which I propose the new generic name *Xenopœcilus*. The small scales and the 7-rayed pelvic fins distinguish *Xenopœcilus* from both *Haplochilus* and *Panchax*. It appears to resemble *Haplochilus* in the high position of the pectoral fins and the non-protractile mouth, but is nearer *Panchax* in the form of the mouth, which has a distinct lateral cleft, and in the dentition, the jaws being furnished with bands of teeth.

That Celebes should possess a peculiar genus of Pœciliid fishes is not surprising; but Professor Max Weber attaches some importance to the presence in this island of a species of the Asiatic genus *Haplochilus*, which he regards as true fresh-water fishes. But Day ('Fishes of India,' p. 522) has pointed out that the species of *Panchax* and *Haplochilus* occur in lowland streams and estuaries, rarely far from the sea, and Duncker (Mitteilung. Naturhistorisch. Mus. Hamburg, xxi. 1904, p. 171) has recorded *Haplochilus javanicus*, Bleek., as a brackish-water fish. It seems probable that the species of *Haplochilus*, like so many Pœciliidæ, sometimes enter the sea, or, at least, that salt water does not constitute an impassable barrier for them.

A species of *Haplochilus* has been recorded from Lombok (M. Weber, Res. Expéd. Néerl. Nouvelle Guinée, Zool. v. 1907, p. 218), but seems never to have been exactly determined or described.